



Linton Parish Council

Community News and Updates

Welcome to the second edition of the annual Linton Parish Council Newsletter. We hope you find this newsletter both interesting and informative. It shows what the Parish Council has been doing in 2024 and our plans for 2025. Should you wish to contribute to any of the projects, please get in touch.

In this issue:

- Budget and Precept Setting Explanation
- Budget Forecasting 2025/2026
- How the Precept is spent
- Projects completed
- Vandalism
- Nature Area



What is the 'PRECEPT'?

The 'Precept' is the amount of money the Parish Council needs to raise each year to cover its running costs. This amount is determined by creating a budget based on previous expenditures, anticipated costs, and other factors. The budget is then converted into an amount per Council Tax Band D and added to the general Council Tax bill. All residential property owners in the parish must contribute, though the number of contributors can vary due to discounts and tax reductions. The Precept is collected by South Derbyshire District Council and paid in two instalments, with the funds dispersed to the Parish Council in April and October.

How is the Precept Calculated?

The Precept is calculated by the Parish Council and the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) by determining the income and funds required for the forthcoming year through a budget. This budget considers previous year's expenditures, anticipated costs (including inflation), increased costs for products and services, and changes in legislation. The total required amount is then divided by the number of Band D equivalent properties in the parish to determine the amount per property, which is added to the general Council Tax bill. The number of Band D properties can vary each year due to new homes being built, properties being demolished, becoming empty, or changes in boundaries.

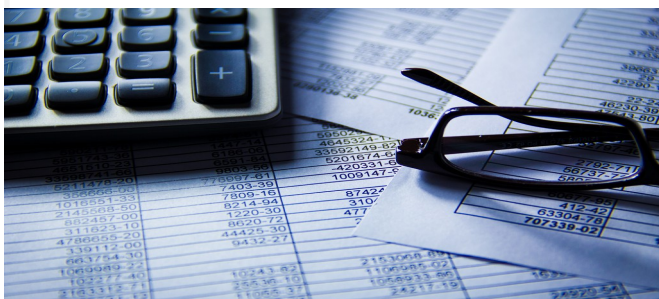
Who needs to pay the Precept?

All residential property owners/households within the Parish of Linton, need to pay the Precept. The number of contributors can be affected by the eligibility of some residents for discounts and council tax reductions.

The Precept is used to cover a variety of costs, including:

1. General Costs:
 - Administration, office expenses, IT support, subscriptions, insurance, grants, training, salaries, associated costs (NI/Pensions), audit fees, repairs, maintenance, and servicing costs.
2. Parish Assets:
 - Maintenance of the Parish Councils, furniture, waste disposal, play park equipment, health and safety inspections, office and meeting room rentals, insurance, grounds maintenance, arboreal works, cemetery upkeep, etc.
3. Miscellaneous:
 - Motor vehicle activated signs (MVAS), lamp post poppies, donations to the Royal British Legion, Small Parish Council Grants to non-profit groups and legal fees.
4. Extraordinary/Unexpected Costs:
 - Tree removal, fence replacement, land surveys, and solicitor fees.
5. Contingency:
 - Asset reserves to ensure financial stability and to cover at least six to twelve months of running costs.

The funds also support the maintenance of open spaces like our 2 play parks and other open space. Additionally, financing for projects to enhance the parish environment may come from grant funding and/or reserves.



Potential reasons for a Precept increase could be:

1. Lack of Central Government Funding: Unlike larger District and County Councils, Parish Council do not receive funding from central government or business rates, so the net cost of its services is entirely funded by ratepayers.

2. Unexpected Costs: The need to cover extra costs from unforeseen incidents.

3. Increased Insurance Cover: To protect parish assets.

4. Maintenance and Repairs: Ensuring parish assets are kept in good condition where possible and fit for purpose.

5. Inflation: Anticipating price increases across services, personnel, and products due to high inflation and economic uncertainty.

6. No Cap on Precept Requests: Parish Councils do not have a cap on their requests for funds at present, allowing them to request the necessary amount to maintain financial health and provide services across the Parish.

Transparency: The council aims to be open and transparent about the funds required to execute a realistic and fair budget in the current economic climate.

These factors contribute to the necessity of a 1.16% increase in the Precept for the 2025-2026 financial year.

Budget Forecast 2025/2026

| Expenditure 2025/2026 | |
|---|-----------|
| OPEN SPACE (Linton Rec, Badger's Hollow, Allotments, Orchard, Foxley Entrance) | 30,450.68 |
| Grants & Donations Section 137 | 3,200.00 |
| Refuse Collection & General amenities | 2,500.00 |
| Members Allowance | 3,120.00 |
| General Admin | 5,000.00 |
| Speed Indicator Sign Project | 4,000.00 |
| Salaries and associated costs | 16,324.51 |

Grand Total 64,595.19

How is the Precept calculated and what is the cost per household for 2025/2026 compared to 2024/2025?

The starting point for calculating the Precept for 2025/2026 is £48,000, against 767 Band D properties. Which according to SDDC is a reduction in band D properties of 9 against 776 in 2024/2025

Precept 2024/2025 - £48,000 divided between 776 properties

£61.86 per year per household
£5.15 per month per household
£1.19 per week per household

Precept 2025/2026 - £48,000 divided by 767 properties

£62.58 per year per household
£5.22 per month per household
£1.20 per week per household

| Income 2025/2026 | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Allotment Income | 72.00 |
| General Admin Bank Interest | 800.00 |
| Vat Claim Predicted | 6,239.64 |
| Precept Claim 2025/2026 | 48,000.00 |
| Concurrent Expenses | 13,604.91 |

Grand Total 68,716.55

| Reserves General—B/F 2024/2025 | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 12 months running costs | 46,000.00 |
| Reserves Earmarked—B/F 2024/2025 | |
| Elections | 4,500.00 |
| Legal Fees | 2,000.00 |
| Climbing Wall Project | 30,000.00 |
| Badger Hollows Nature Reserve Project | 2,000.00 |
| PC Event | 1,000.00 |
| Orchard planting of new trees | 500.00 |
| Wet Pour replacement | 20,000.00 |
| Christmas Tree and Decorations | 5,000.00 |
| Onyx sign repairs | 500.00 |
| TOTAL | 111,500.00 |

The Precept between 2024/2025 and 2025/2026

1.16% increase

This is due to the reduction in Band D Properties allocation by SDDC. It is not due to the Parish Council increasing the Precept.

What does the 'PRECEPT' get used for/spent on?

The funds collected are divided out to cover a variety of costs, (this list is not exhaustive) e.g.

Extra-ordinary/
unexpected costs/
Incidents

- * Tree Removal (ongoing)
- * Fencing Replacements
- * Survey—Land
- * Legal Fees/Solicitor Fees
- * Land Registry Charges

General Costs

- * Administration/Office
- * IT Support
- * Subscriptions
- * Insurance
- * Grants
- * Training
- * Salaries/Associated Costs
- * Audit Fees
- * Repairs/Maintenance
- * Servicing Costs
- * Office Rent and Meeting Costs
- * Legal Fees

Parish Assets

- * Maintenance Costs of Parish Council assets
- * Maintenance of Street Furniture owned by the Parish Council—Benches, bins, signs, fencing and gates
- * Waste Disposal
- * Play Parks and Equipment
- * H&S Inspections and Compliance
- * Ground and Grass Cutting of all Parish Council owned, managed or leased Open Space

Miscellaneous

- * Lamppost Poppies and War Memorial Wreath
- * S137 small Parish Council Grants to non-profit and Charity Organisations.
- * Arboreal Works, Flower and Bulb Planting on Parish Council land

Contingency

- * The Council seeks to be economically viable to build reserves for the protection of Council funds and the calls that be made upon them.
- * The Council has been advised by the external Auditor to keep at least six to twelve months running costs in reserves throughout the year.

Financing of Projects - proposals to enhance the Parish Environment for the benefit of the residents, will be through any Grant Funding where possible, which may be applied for from various sources although this is not guaranteed] and from Reserves where required.

The Linton Parish Council website is an invaluable resource for residents, businesses, and visitors, offering comprehensive information and services that enhance community engagement and transparency.

<http://www.linton-pc.org.uk/>

Council meetings are open to the public and you are invited to contact the Parish Council Clerk or a Member of Council for more insight into the role of a Parish Councillor. Currently we have no vacancy on the Parish Council, there will be elections in May 2027 for a new 4-year term with 11 councillor spaces available. You may make an expression of interest to the Parish Council Clerk who will be happy to provide you with more details of the role.

For further information you can also contact the Parish Clerk: Tel: 0771 9599132 or via email: clerk@linton-pc.org.uk

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL WORKING TO MAKE OUR PARISH A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, VISIT AND ENJOY

Jacob's Tree



After requests from residents the Parish Council planted a tree and installed a plaque in memory of Jacob.

The Parish Council are planning to update and refurbish the Linton Orchard with new fruit trees in the near future.

Badger's Hollow Recreation Ground—Climbing Wall Project

Linton Parish Council has signed the contract with Rhino Play to install a Climbing Wall at the Badger Hollows Recreation Ground. This should be installed and ready for use within the next few months.



New Speed Indicator Sign to Encourage Safer Driving in Linton



Linton Parish Council is pleased to announce the purchase of an additional speed indicator sign to help promote safer driving through the village. This new sign features a simple but effective way to remind drivers of their speed, displaying a **smiley face** for those adhering to the limit and a **sad face** for those exceeding it.

With this latest addition, we now have **two speed indicator signs**, which are currently rotated between **three locations** around Linton. To further enhance road safety, we also plan to **install an additional location on Linton Heath near Rickman's Corner in the near future**.

History and Registration of Linton Recreation Ground



Rev John Harden Clay (born Stapenhill) married Alice Bagnold and had 12 children as listed above.

Details from the conveyance legal document dated 11/04/1930, states that Rev John Harden Clay Made a will on 22 January 1910, his executors were his wife Alice, Son Frederic Harden Clay and Nephew Robert Quirk. He made 2 codicils on 1/2/1923 and 3/2/1923. John Harden Clay died on 31/10/1923.

Probate date was 28/12/1923 at Carlisle District.

The conveyance deed states that the land was sold to Linton Parish Council on 21/1/1930 for £224 15 shillings and 5 pence. The land can only be used as a Public Recreation Ground.

Rev John Harden Clay had a lease agreement (8/12/1919) with Moira Colliery Company Limited which had the mining rights to the land.

Linton Parish Council are now in the process of having the land registered to the Parish Council for the benefit of the Community and to protect the future of the land.

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New Larger Litter Bins Installed in Linton

Linton Parish Council is pleased to announce the installation of new, larger litter bins at two key locations in the village. You'll now find improved waste disposal facilities on **Linton Heath** and outside the former **Chip Shop on Main Street**.

These upgraded bins have been installed to help keep our community clean and tidy, providing extra capacity to reduce overflowing waste. We kindly encourage all residents and visitors to make use of them and help us maintain a litter-free environment.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping Linton a great place to live!



New Benches Installed at Badger's Hollow and Linton Allotments



Linton Parish Council is pleased to announce the installation of brand-new benches at **Badger's Hollow Recreation Ground** and the **Linton Allotments**. These additions provide comfortable resting spots for visitors to enjoy the surroundings, whether taking a break during a walk, watching the world go by, or tending to an allotment plot.

The Parish Council hopes that these benches will be well-used and appreciated by the local community. If you have any feedback or suggestions for further improvements in our green spaces, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to seeing residents make the most of these new additions!



New Fencing Installed at Linton Allotments

Linton Parish Council is pleased to announce that new fencing has been installed at the Linton allotments. This upgrade aims to improve security, protect plots from wildlife, and create a safer environment for all allotment holders.

We appreciate the patience of our allotment community while the work was carried out and hope these improvements enhance your gardening experience. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact the Parish Council.

Happy growing!

Linton Parish Council Donates Portrait of King Charles III to The Brick Rooms

Linton Parish Council is pleased to announce that we have donated our complimentary portrait of His Majesty King Charles III to The Brick Rooms. As part of a government initiative, councils across the UK were offered a free official portrait of the King, and we felt it was only fitting to share it with the community in a space where it can be appreciated by many.

The Brick Rooms, a well-loved local venue, provides the perfect home for this regal addition. We hope that visitors will enjoy seeing the portrait on display, celebrating both our national heritage and the strong sense of community that defines Linton.



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Linton Parish Council: Repairing Our Community After Vandalism



Linton Parish Council remains committed to maintaining and improving our local amenities, but unfortunately, repeated incidents of vandalism continue to divert valuable resources away from other community projects.

Each act of vandalism, whether it's damage to benches, play equipment, or public spaces, comes at a significant cost to the public purse, using funds that could otherwise enhance our parish for everyone.

We urge all residents to remain vigilant. If you witness any vandalism, please report it to the police:



- **Emergency (if a crime is in progress):** 999
- **Non-emergency (to report past incidents):** 101

By working together, we can help protect our community and ensure that public funds are spent on improving Linton, rather than repairing unnecessary damage. Thank you for your support in keeping our parish a safe and welcoming place for all.

Linton Parish Council & Burton Conservation Volunteers: Improving Biodiversity at Badger's Hollow

Linton Parish Council is proud to continue working alongside the Burton Conservation Volunteers to enhance the biodiversity of the Local Nature Reserve at Badger's Hollow Recreation Ground.

As part of our ongoing efforts, we have provided funding to support the hire of a wood chipper. This will allow for the responsible shredding of trees that have been removed as part of the habitat management process. By recycling this material, we help to enrich the area's natural ecosystem, promoting new growth and sustaining the diverse wildlife that calls Badger's Hollow home.

We greatly appreciate the hard work and dedication of the Burton Conservation Volunteers and residents that have also participated in the event days and we look forward to seeing the positive impact of these initiatives on our local environment.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Linton Parish Council. Or look out for the posters advertising events on our website.

